

## Part 1 – Agency Profile

### Agency Overview

The Office of Performance Evaluations (OPE), created in 1994, is a nonpartisan, independent office that serves the Legislature's information needs by conducting performance evaluations of state agencies and programs. The mission of OPE is to promote confidence and accountability in state government through these evaluations. Evaluation findings, conclusions, and recommendations are used by the Legislature to make policy and appropriation decisions and by agencies to improve performance.

Performance evaluations include assessing whether:

- Agencies or programs are complying with applicable laws and legislative intent
- Services are provided efficiently and in a cost-effective manner
- Programs and services are achieving intended results

OPE works under the direction of the bipartisan, Joint Legislative Oversight Committee (JLOC). It has nine full-time staff, including six evaluators, an administrative coordinator, a research and technology assistant, and a director who serves at the pleasure of JLOC.

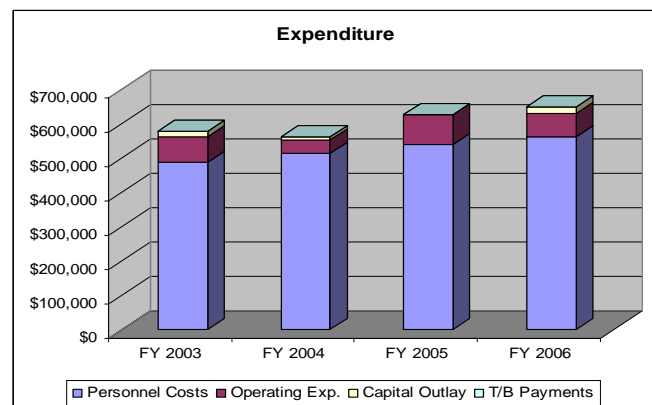
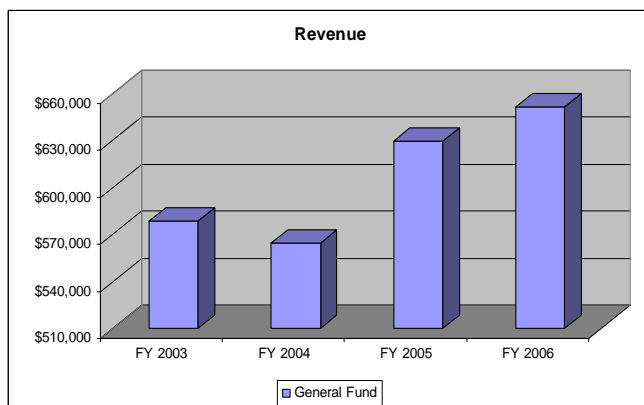
### Core Functions/Idaho Code

Authorizing statutes: Idaho Code §§ 67-457 through 67-464

1. Conduct performance evaluations and report each evaluation to JLOC
2. Identify cost savings and opportunities to avoid unnecessary future costs
3. Provide useful recommendations to assist the Legislature in making policy and budget decisions
4. Be responsive to the Legislature's information needs

### Revenue and Expenditures

Revenue	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006
General Fund	\$578,700	\$564,800	\$629,300	\$651,500
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$578,700</b>	<b>\$564,800</b>	<b>\$629,300</b>	<b>\$651,500</b>
Expenditure	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006
Personnel Costs	\$490,300	\$514,200	\$540,100	\$563,300
Operating Expenditures	\$72,800	\$39,500	\$89,200	\$67,200
Capital Outlay	\$15,600	\$11,100	\$0	\$21,000
Trustee/Benefit Payments	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$578,700</b>	<b>\$564,800</b>	<b>\$629,300</b>	<b>\$651,500</b>



**Profile of Cases Managed and/or Key Services Provided**

Cases Managed and/or Key Services Provided	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006
Number of performance evaluation projects completed	4	3	3	3
Number of follow-up reviews for previous evaluations completed	3	5	1	0
Number of federal mandate reviews completed	1	0	1	0

The OPE workload depends on the number and nature of projects assigned each year by JLOC.

**Performance Highlights**

- 2006 Excellence in Evaluation Award, National Conference of State Legislatures, National Legislative Program Evaluation Society, in recognition of "best advancing the field of legislative program evaluation" from 2002 through 2005.
- 2006 Notable Documents Award, National Conference of State Legislatures, Legislative Research Librarians, in recognition of excellence for the report [Idaho School for the Deaf and the Blind](#) that explores "topics of contemporary interest to legislators and staff by presenting substantive material in an outstanding format."
- 2006 Notable Documents Award, National Conference of State Legislatures, Legislative Research Librarians, in recognition of excellence for the report [Use of Social Security Numbers for Drivers' Licenses, Permits, and Identification Cards](#) that explores "topics of contemporary interest to legislators and staff by presenting substantive material in an outstanding format."
- 2006 Impact Award, National Legislative Program Evaluation Society, in recognition for the report [Strategic Planning and Performance Measurement](#) that had documented public policy impact.

**Part II – Performance Measures**

Performance Measure	2003	2004	2005	2006	Benchmark
1. Provide useful recommendations to assist the legislature in making policy and budget decisions measured by the number of bills and resolutions introduced or enacted in response to OPE recommendations	1	5	1	5	n/a
2. Identify cost-savings and opportunities to avoid unnecessary future costs measured by estimated cost savings or cost avoidance reported as a result of OPE recommendations	\$1.1 million	\$21 million	None identified	None identified	n/a
3. Be responsive to the legislature's information needs measured by number of "24-hours" limited reviews completed	4	5	0	2	n/a
4. Be responsive to the legislature's information needs measured by number of evaluation-related presentations made to the legislature (does not include presentations to JLOC)	5	6	5	5	n/a

**Performance Measure Explanatory Note:**

Performance Measure #2. OPE measures cost-savings and opportunities to avoid unnecessary future costs when conducting follow-up reports of previous evaluations. The dollar amounts are based on actual agency implementation of recommendations.

Benchmarks are not applicable because OPE performance measures are subject to legislative requests, bill or resolution passage, and agency compliance.

**For More Information Contact**

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